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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3701

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CHAIR

CONGRESSIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN CAUCUS

Wage War on Terrorism
Not on Fellow Americans

September 18, 2001

Dear Colleague:

On behalf of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-American Affairs, we offer our deepest condolences to those suffering from the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, DC. We strongly condemn terrorism of any kind.

As Americans, we must honor the victims of terrorism by upholding fundamental American ideals of freedom and democracy. We must not express our fears and anger by indiscriminately striking out against those with different names, skin color, religion, or origin.

Within the aftermath of the terrorist attacks, there have been reported incidents of hate crimes committed against Arab Americans and Americans of South Asian descent.

We urge restraint and ask Americans to wage war on terrorism – not on fellow Americans. While we all experience the shock and anger in the aftermath of the September 11th tragedy, we should not direct our hostility toward our neighbors in ethnic communities across the country.

America must not take revenge by blind retribution. We must preserve fundamental civil rights and defend the rights of Arab and South Asian Americans, who are our neighbors, friends, and colleagues,

Sincerely,

David Wu
Chair
Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus

Mike Honda
Vice Chair
Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus

Jim McDermott
Co-Chair
Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-American Affairs

Ed Royce
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